



CITY OF WHEATLAND

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CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

The police employee in every community is an unmistakable symbol not only of the law, but of the entire community. Police employees can solve complex problems of a community only when working in concert with the entire community. The basic mission of the Wheatland Police Department is to ensure the safety and security of all the people in the city by providing responsible and professional police service. This mission is accomplished with the moral and legal standards of our community through a partnership of the community and members of our department. Therefore, it is a policy of the Wheatland Police Department to accept and investigate all complaints of alleged misconduct on the part of all police employees. The following will help guide you through this process.

WHAT IS A CITIZEN COMPLAINT? A citizen complaint is defined as an allegation of misconduct or improper job performance of an employee.

WHO MAY FILE A CITIZEN COMPLAINT? Any person who feels they have been the victim of or witness to misconduct or improper job performance by a police employee may file a complaint.

WILL A CITIZEN COMPLAINT BE INVESTIGATED? All citizen complaints are investigated and then reviewed by the Chief of Police.

CITIZEN COMPLAINT PROCESS

Any person desiring to report misconduct or improper job performance by a police employee will be first directed to the employee's immediate supervisor. The supervisor will meet with you to initially discuss your complaint. After discussing your complaint the supervisor may assist you in completing the complaint form. Your complaint will then be forwarded to the Chief of Police.

Your complaint will be reviewed and an investigator will be assigned to fully investigate your allegations. The investigator will contact you and request an interview with you. The interview will allow the investigator to gather all the facts and evidence, so an appropriate report can be prepared. Each allegation of misconduct is examined on its own merits in an objective manner.

The Chief of Police will review the investigation and render a finding. Within 30 days of the Chief's finding, you will be notified in writing of that finding.

The Wheatland Police Department complies with State Law, retaining citizen complaints for a period of five (5) years. Evidence Code 1043 allows defense attorneys to motion to the court for review of citizen complaints and retrieve the names and phone numbers of complaining parties and witnesses.

If you should have any further questions, you may contact the Chief of Police at (530) 633-2016. If you are mailing your complaint form, please mail it to: Chief of Police, Citizen Complaint: 207 Main Street Wheatland, CA 95692.